Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, America is the land of freedom, preserved and protected willingly and freely by citizen soldiers; and,

Whereas, Millions have answered the call to arms and have died on the field of battle; and,

Whereas, A nation of peace must be reminded of the price of war and the debt owed to those who have died in war; and,

Whereas, Red poppies are worn and displayed as a symbolic tribute to our fallen and the future of living veterans and service members; and,

Whereas, The American Legion Auxiliary has pledged to remind America annually of this debt through the distribution of the memorial flower on various days in South Dakota; and,

Whereas, The American Legion Family has long utilized the red poppy as its official flower, symbolizing the blood shed by those who have served in our United States military, and it is fitting that as The American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary approach their 100th anniversaries, they expand the meaning and symbolism of the poppy, mirroring the manner in which the poppy is symbolically showcased in England and Canada in celebratory fashion on their Remembrance Day, also known as Armistice Day and Poppy Day:

Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim May 26-29, 2017, as

POPPY DAYS

in South Dakota, and I urge our citizens to pay tribute to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the name of liberty, freedom, and democracy by wearing the Memorial Poppy on these days.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Eighth Day of May in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Seventeen.

Dennis Daugaard

Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

Shantel Krebs

Shantel Krebs, Secretary of State